

CrossTalk

August The Newsletter of CROSSROADS Language Studio 2003

Crazy summer adventures!

Summer has always made people act a little crazy. Maybe it's too much beer, which looks so cool and tempting on those hot summer afternoons, or perhaps it's the freedom of being outside again, after months spent staying in to escape the cold and rain. Summer craziness is an international thing, and many countries have created their own sports and events to celebrate it! Here are just a few of them:

Beer Can Regatta in Australia - This is part of a week-long festival in Darwin. Competitors must make boats out of their old beer cans, and then race them at sea! The competitors are so drunk (and the boats are so weak) that most of them are unable to finish the race!



The Running of the Bulls in Spain – Angry bulls are released onto the streets of Pamplona, and are then encouraged to run through the town.

Local men (and adventure-seeking tourists) run with them, in a fast and VERY dangerous race to the bullring.

Bathtub Racing in Belgium – On August 15th, in the village of Dinant, 350 bathtubs are raced down a local river. The competitors are not only judged on how fast their tub goes, but also on how beautiful it looks!

Bog Snorkeling in Wales – Every year, on the last day of August, people wearing snorkeling gear jump into a smelly bog, and then doggy-paddle downstream at hi-speed, whilst trying to avoid getting water scorpions in their bathing suits!

So what are you waiting for?

Let's get the snorkeling gear and GO!

GLOSSARY (These words are in orange in the story)

tempting	味覚をそそられる	Regatta	レガッタ(ボートレース)	competitors	競争者
encouraged	勢いづけられる	adventure-seeking	冒険を探求する	local	地元の
judged	審査される	gear	装具	bog	沼
		doggy-paddle	犬かき	scorpions	サソリ

A Word From Us



Joshua Says: It's time again to welcome a new teacher to Crossroads! Everyone at Crossroads, students and staff alike, are looking forward to the guidance, fun and surprises Duncan has in store for us and we will do our best to make him feel at home here in Matsuyama. I know everyone shares a welcome to our new teacher – Welcome aboard Duncan!!

Junko Says: We held our Summer beer-garden party on the 13th of last month, and wouldn't you know? It rained!! Some of the heaviest rain we have seen in Matsuyama in a long time. Still, many students turned up and we had a very enjoyable time. I even think the rain actually helped to create a more intimate and friendly atmosphere!



Joanna Says: Tamara and I recently took a trip to Universal Studios, Osaka. We had a great time wandering around New York, and watching the colourful Hollywood parade in the sun. The *Jurassic Park* ride was scary though! Here's a picture of Tamara and I enjoying the drop!



Tamara Says: Well, it looks like I have travel fever again. Last month I went to Osaka to visit USJ and the aquarium. Next month I'm off to Okinawa for some fun in the sun. Where do you think I should visit in September?



Duncan Says: Hi! I started working at Crossroads on the first of August - and it's great to be back in Japan! It's especially good to be in the warmer climate of Shikoku (I used to work in Obihiro-shi, Hokkaido, and the winters there almost killed me!), and it'll be nice working in a big city like Matsuyama. Anyway, I am looking forward to meeting you all!

Greg Says: I recently heard a friend of mine playing the guitar and they were so good that I was inspired to learn to play it myself! So I bought myself a new guitar, and I can now play both C and G chords, and I'm hoping that one day I'll be able to be a traveling *Mariachi*.

Playing the guitar is a great way to relax when you have a hangover!



Yuka Says: What are your plans for this summer? Going to the seaside, climbing mountains or taking a trip to a foreign country? Well, one thing I don't want to miss is the firework festival. It was so fantastic last year that I can't wait for it to come around again this year! Who knows, I may even run into some of you there also.

A Word From You

Mutsuko Yasuoka says: I have been showing my clothing designs in Paris, France since 1976. My next show is coming up in September. I've been working really hard all year and can't wait for my show to start. Wish me luck! (Bonne chance!!) If you'll be in Paris in the fall make sure to ask me for an invitation.

Beer garden Party 2003!



Thank you all for coming!

Easy English Lesson

Idioms – 'A Piece of Cake'

'A piece of cake' is used to describe something that is very easy (maybe because nothing is easier than eating a nice piece of cake!). For example: My English homework was a piece of cake! (My English homework was very easy!)



Net News

NET LESSONS:

Are you too busy to come to CROSSROADS for English lessons? Try our lessons *on the internet!* It's CROSSROADS in **your home!** You get CROSSROADS' great teachers, materials, even classmates, *on-line!* Call for details.

NET SITE OF THE MONTH:

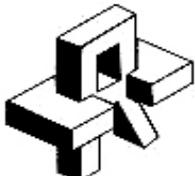
go to www.launch.com to check out all of your favorite singers and their newest videos.

NET NOTEBOOK:

Take a look at the internet activity notebook in our open-house. You'll find games, news and English learning sites.

Notice Board

Mayumi Tsuchitani is studying English at Crossroads to get ready for her upcoming trip. She is planning on living, working, and studying in Canada for one year. If you have any tips about living overseas, please let her know!!



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